

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota consistently ranks in the top five of states in pounds of honey produced and has over 239,000 colonies in an average year; and,

Whereas, South Dakota ranks in the top ten in production of alfalfa hay, flaxseed, sunflower seed, proso millet, wheat, sorghum, corn, and soybeans likely in part due to pollinator species; and,

Whereas, Agriculture is South Dakota's number one industry, generating nearly \$21 billion in annual economic activity and employing over 143,000 South Dakotans; and,

Whereas, Pollinator species such as birds and insects are essential partners to farmers and ranchers in producing much of our food supply; and,

Whereas, Pollination plays a vital role in the health of our national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational opportunities as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities; and,

Whereas, Pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy bio diverse ecosystems; and,

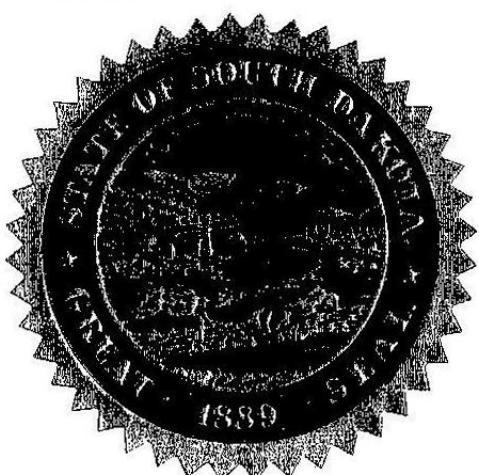
Whereas, The state of South Dakota has managed wildlife habitats and public lands such as South Dakota forests and grasslands for decades; and,

Whereas, The state of South Dakota provides producers with conservation assistance to promote wise conservation stewardship, including the protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats on work lands and wild lands:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of June 20-26, 2011, as

SOUTH DAKOTA POLLINATOR WEEK

in South Dakota.

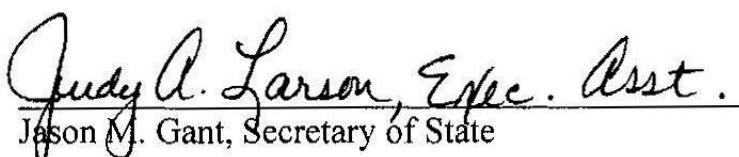


In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventeenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.



Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:



Judy A. Larson, Exec. Asst.
Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State